 **Risk Assessment for Orienteering**

Risk assessments are concerned with identifying the hazards (i.e. things which might go wrong or cause an accident/injury), evaluating the likelihood of a particular event occurring (i.e. level of risk) and putting measures in place needed to reduce or eliminate the risk.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Club / satellite club name / after school club** | Leicestershire Orienteering Club |
| **Name of person completing this form** | Iain Charge | **Position of person completing this form (coach, organiser etc)** | Organiser |
| **Venue for session / event / activity** | Dark Woods, Coalville | **Date for session /** **event / activity** | Sunday 15th Jan 2016 |
| **Name of person in charge of session / event / activity** | Iain Charge |
| **Risk assessment signed**  |  | **Risk assessment dated** | 12th December 2015 |
| **Risk assessment checked by (name, position and date)** | **Print name** **& position (coach mentor, controller etc.):** X R Pell, Controller |
| **Sign and date:**  |  |

**Emergency Information**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Emergency access point (for emergency vehicles)** | **Post code / grid reference:**Dark Woods, Coalville LE63 2TP / SK325166 | **Place from which signed:**Signs at junction of B3421 and the minor road to the event site.  |
| **Nearest A&E hospital:** | **Name and Post code:****Leicester Royal Infirmary**Infirmary Square, LeicesterLE1 5WW Tel: 0300 303 1573**Urgent Care Centre**Epinal Way, Loughborough, LE11 5JY Tel: 01509 611600 | **Map available (where):**Download/ Registration |
| **Working telephone:****Note:** 112 from a mobile provides your GPS position to the ambulance service | **Landline or mobile:****If mobile (reception checked?)**Mobile | **Number:**07798937128 |
| **First Aid cover** | **Name of first aider:**LEI coaches and Event Organiser  | **Located where?**At download |

**The Risk Assessment**

**It is essential that the mitigation column is completed in detail so that the control measures and who is responsible is fully understood in advance of the activity / session / event and that all staff / helpers are fully briefed.**

**NB: it is not sufficient only to put warnings in preliminary information as there is no way of being sure that all participants will have read them.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Hazard – note under these headings (see suggested examples to consider)** | **Possible outcome / injury including note on severity and likelihood of occurrence** | **Mitigation** * **What control measure?**
* **Who is responsible?**
 |
| **In area to be used (indoor / outdoor):**Outdoor event in woodlandsMapped area includes ponds, stream and crags and a road crossed by several courses.Car park adjacent to the registration tent  | Drowning – severe/low riskVehicle collision and injury / trauma – severe/low risk Scratches, knocks, stings – minor/high riskInjury due to trip and slip hazards (brambles, steep slopes and industrial waste) – mostly minor/medium risk.  | No controls sited on the lake edges or tops of crags. For Junior courses, any control near a lake will be situated on recognised footpaths. Off track/path controls near water bodies only on courses for experienced orienteers.- *Planner*Bridges on the major watercourse are marked on the map. -  *Planner*All competitors will be warned in the final details and at the Start of the existence of the ponds/lakes/crags and that care should be taken when near these features and they should not be crossed. - *Organiser*All competitors will be advised to use suitable footwear i.e. orienteering shoes/ trainers with grips- *Organiser*Controls sited to direct all competitors to a specific marshalled road crossing point and sufficient time allowed to cross safely. –*Controller/Organiser*Car parking will be supervised by marshals whilst arriving. – *Organiser*Course where there are potential hazards will only be appropriate for experienced orienteers who will have frequently encountered and previously managed such hazards. Specific danger spots will be identified with striped tape. Steep crags and slippery slopes will be avoided on courses used by the oldest competitors. *- Planner* |
| **Participants**All ages (may include very young and very old), novices and experienced. | Straying out of the area – minor/low risk Problems with existing medical conditions and medical emergencies (e.g. heart, breathing difficulties, hypothermia) – severe/low risk | Competitors will be warned on the final details and at registration that they are taking part at their own risk. - *Organiser*Terrain, course lengths, navigation difficulty and height climb clearly advised in pre-event information as well as on control descriptions and maps, so that participants can judge which course reflects their ability. Short and medium courses for younger competitors. Inexperienced juniors should be shadowed or accompanied by an adult *– Planner and Organiser*Mandatory- for all competitors to carry a whistle to attract help in an emergency. *– Organiser*If a competitor reports that someone is injured and cannot get back by themselves, a party will be sent to assist. *– Organiser*Event area is fairly self-contained. Courses will close at 2pm giving time to find missing competitors and collect controls before dark. If a competitor has not returned at the close of the course, the a pre-planned search procedure will be implemented *– Organiser*Mobile phone signal will be checked in all parts of the area - *Controller.* A first aider will be based at registration. – *Organiser* |
| **Other people/activities in area**Other woodland users including, horse riders, dog walkers and cyclistsStranger Danger | Injuries or collision with cyclists or other users of the area – minor-severe/low riskAbduction – severe/v. low risk | Paths are wide where walkers and horse riders are likely to be encountered Pre-event details and notices at Registration and Start will contain warnings about encountering dogs, walkers and horse riders *– Organiser*The control sites will not be sited close to mountain bike trails. – *Controller*Pre-event details and notices at Registration and Start will contain a warning about keeping off the cycle tracks. *- Organiser* Officials managing the Start will be briefed to draw all competitors’ attention to the warning notices. *– Organiser*Competitors will be warned that the woodlands are a public place at registration and in final details. Young inexperienced runners to be accompanied. –*Organiser* |
| **Weather**Event takes place in January. Paths will be wet and slippery. Possible ice and snow. | Slips and falls – minor-severe/ medium riskHypothermia – moderate-severe/medium risk | Event details will include clothing advice. *– Organiser*Waterproof hooded jackets will be mandatory for competitors if weather conditions are poor. *- Organiser*Competitors will be warned of surfaces in the final details, at registration and at the finish – *Organiser*If weather conditions are forecast to be dangerously severe, the event will be cancelled. *– Organiser* |
| **Equipment** Electronic equipment at download. | Electric shock/fire – severe/v.low risk  | Mains electricity and other cables will be kept away from competitors *– Download team* |